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Patent claims

1. Data card unit with means for automatically transporting data cards between an insertion/removal position and a reading/writing position, a carrier provided with a guide assigned to the data cards being provided, a motor-actuated transporting shaft reaching into the movement space of the data cards and means by which an insertion opening of the data card unit can be closed being provided, characterized in that a two-armed rocker (13) which can be pivoted about an axis arranged transversely in relation to the directions of movement of the data cards (68) is provided, one arm of which rocker has a closing element (57) and the other arm of which has at least one sensing element (66, 67), in that the distance between the closing element (57) and the sensing element (66, 67) is equal to or greater than the length of a data card (68), in that surfaces (69, 70) sloping toward the plane of movement of the data cards (68) are formed in a v-shaped manner at least on the closing element (57) in such a way that, when a data card (68) is inserted/ejected, a pivoting of the rocker (13) takes place and that, when a data card (68) is located in the reading/writing position, the data card (68) reaches into the pivoting area of the sensing element (66, 67) in such a way that the rocker (13) is arrested in the closed position.

2. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that the rocker (13) is mounted on the transporting shaft (42) provided with at least one friction element (43, 44, 45).

3. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that the rocker (13) is formed with arms of

unequal length, the closing element (57) being provided on the longer arm of the rocker (13).

4. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that at least the sensing element (66, 67) is formed directly on the rocker (13).

5. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that clearances (28, 29) for the sensing element (66, 67) and the closing element (57) to pass through the movement space of the data cards (68) are formed in the carrier (2).

6. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that the length of the closing element (57) is greater than the width of the guide assigned to the data cards (68) in the carrier (2) and in that a groove (56) corresponding to the cross section and the length of the closing element (57) is formed in the carrier (2).

7. Data card unit according to claim 6, characterized in that the groove (56) is lined with an elastomeric material.

8. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that a bridge (14) which can be connected to the carrier (2) and reaches over the rocker (13) is provided and in that a set of reading/writing contacts (19) electrically contacting the contacts of data cards (68) located in the reading/writing position is fastened on the bridge (14).

9. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that a set of reading/writing contacts (19), electrically contacting the contacts of data cards (68) located in the reading/writing position, is fastened directly on the rocker (13).

10. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that a covering (15) which can be connected to the carrier (2) and reaches over the rocker (13) is provided and, together with the carrier (2), forms an alignment gap (18) assigned to the closing element (56).

11. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that an alignment gap (18) assigned to the closing element (57) is formed directly on the carrier (2).

12. Data card unit according to claim 10, characterized in that at least one resilient holding-down device (16, 17), assigned to the rocker (13), is formed on the covering (15).

13. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that at least one resilient holding-down device (16, 17), assigned to the rocker (13), is formed directly on the carrier (2).

14. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that the carrier (2) is formed essentially as a flat plate with a depression (24) serving as a guide for the data cards (68), in that means (30, 31, 32, 33, 34) for securing a drive motor (6), for mounting (40, 41) the transporting shaft (42) and for mounting (35, 36, 37, 38, 39) [sic] and at least one connecting shaft (9) serving for the drive connection between the drive motor (6) and the transporting shaft (42) are formed on the carrier (2) and in that spacing bolts (3, 4, 5) for fastening the data card unit (1) at the installation location are formed on the carrier (2), aligned in the same direction as the securing and mounting means.

15. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that switches (22, 23) reporting the insertion/removal position and the reading/writing position of a data card (68) are provided and in that the switches (22, 23), the set of reading/writing contacts (19) and the drive motor (6) are connected by means of a flexible strip conductor (21) led out from the data card unit (1).

16. Data card unit according to claim 1, characterized in that the rocker (13) is formed as one part and profiled in a u-shaped manner, in that bearing bores (82, 83) in line with one another are provided in the legs (80, 81) of the rocker (13) and in that a closing element (76) and at least one sensing element (78, 79) are formed on directly, parallel to the bearing axis.